

CENSUS 2001: SIXTEENTH NATIONAL POPULATION CENSUS AND THE FIFTH HOUSING CENSUS

(HO-0206)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Borrower:	Republic of Honduras	
Executing agency:	Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas [National Statistics Office] (INE) with the participation of the executing unit of Census 2001	
Amount and source:	IDB (FSO):	US\$ 3,000,000
	Local:	US\$ 600,000
	Other donors (SIDA, USAID, and Government of Japan)	US\$ 4,619,931
	Total:	US\$ 8,219,931
Financial terms and conditions:	Amortization period:	40 years
	Grace period:	10 years
	Disbursement:	12 months
	Interest rate:	1% for 10 years; 2% thereafter
	Inspection and supervision:	1%
	Credit fee:	0.5%
Objectives:	<p>The program's general objective is to support the Government of Honduras in gathering statistics essential to decision-making by conducting the Sixteenth National Population Census and Fifth Housing Census 2001 (Census 2001) in July and to contribute to the institutional strengthening of the INE.</p> <p>The program's specific objectives are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide the human, material, and financial resources needed to ensure that the census activities are carried out promptly on schedule and with the required level of quality; b. Strengthen the institutional capacity of the INE in the short term to conduct surveys during the intercensal period; and c. Publish and disseminate the results of Census 2001. 	

By attaining these objectives, the country's statistical maps will be updated, which will be essential for organizing the national agricultural and economic establishment censuses and for defining the sampling framework for future household surveys.

Description:

The proposed program involves a technical-cooperation loan and is comprised of several components consisting of the activities necessary to conduct the census and gather, analyze, and disseminate census data. It consists of the following components: (a) census enumeration; (b) post-enumeration activities; (c) publication and dissemination of the results; and (d) institutional strengthening of the INE and preidentification studies for the INE's long-term institutional strengthening

Component I: enumeration (total: US\$6,656,802; IDB: US\$2,068,714; local counterpart: US\$425,000; other donors: US\$4,163,088) is the central activity of the census exercise and should be conducted simultaneously throughout the country. To ensure the success of the enumeration or information gathering, the following activities will be financed: (a) the field enumeration itself; (b) the use of guides and translators for the various ethnic groups; (c) enumerator training; and (d) training of urban and rural municipal district and sector chiefs.

Component II: the post-enumeration stage (total: US\$649,786; IDB: US\$544,786; local counterpart: US\$70,000; other donors: US\$35,000) consists of activities related to the processing of data and the analysis, dissemination, and updating of pre-census data. The financing covers the contracting of: (a) census editors and supervisors; and (b) data entry staff and supervisors.

Component III: publication and dissemination of the results (total and IDB: US\$105,500): the activities involved in publishing and disseminating the results of the census will be part of the national information system and will be carried out as follows: (i) preparation of a publication plan providing for document, compact disk, and brochure production at the national and municipal levels; (ii) dissemination of information by means of localization of CD-ROMs; and (iii) transfer of information to central and municipal governments.

Component IV: institutional strengthening of the INE (total and IDB: US\$216,000), which is comprised of specific activities as follows: (a) INE staff training; and (b) identification of activities for future development and institutional strengthening of the INE.

The Bank's country and sector strategy:

The central objective of the Bank's strategy in Honduras, which is consistent with the government's priorities, is to reduce poverty. It is comprised of three lines of action: (i) economic growth and creation of opportunities; (ii) development of human capital and access to basic social services; and (iii) support for governance and consolidation of reforms. The 2001 National Population and Housing Census will provide the basic tool for support of these three lines, given that it will supply essential information needed to adopt poverty-reduction policies and deliver social services.

Environmental and social review:

The program was reviewed by the Committee on Environment and Social Impact (CESI) on 30 March 2001. No negative environmental or social effects are anticipated.

Moreover, based on the census data collected and processed, it will be possible to better identify the areas of poverty and locations with the highest demand or greatest need for public services of all kinds

Benefits:

The program's benefits are varied since the census data will be used for different purposes both by public and private institutions as well as domestic and international ones. The Honduran population in general will also benefit, since the data and information necessary to formulate and implement development policies, strategies, plans, and programs will be available. For smaller geographic units such as municipios, municipal districts, and others, the census is practically the only source of statistical research, inasmuch as surveys are not statistically representative at those levels and the administrative records only refer to the supply of services in the areas of health, education, etc.

Risks:

One risk that might arise refers to the possibility that the supervision capacity at the departmental and district levels may be insufficient. However, supervisors and instructors have been hired and, at the same time, the chiefs of the enumeration groups at the urban and rural levels have been trained. Another risk could be the lack of political will to carry out the census. In this regard, it should be noted that the government has provided the resources needed for this task. With regard to the technical quality of the census, the United States Census Bureau has certified the technical quality of the census and of the technical staff in charge of preparing, coordinating, and implementing Census 2001. Lastly, with regard to the risk of absenteeism, awareness campaigns to gain respect for what the census-takers will be doing in the communities will be strengthened. Toward the same end, the geographic reference for assigning census personnel will be the area in which they reside and not the education center in which the

citizen studies or works. This measure will reduce the risk of absenteeism and will streamline control and logistics of the operation.

Special contractual clauses:

Prior to the first disbursement of the loan proceeds, it will be necessary to present the following to the Bank's satisfaction: (a) evidence that the borrower, the executing agency and the Census 2001 executing unit have signed a funds transfer agreement that establishes, *inter alia*, the obligations of the parties vis-à-vis program execution; the terms and conditions under which the resources of the financing will be transferred; and the nonreimbursable nature of the transfer (paragraph 3.6); (b) evidence that, through the executing unit, the borrower has hired the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to carry out the activities for which the unit is responsible, in accordance with terms previously agreed upon with the Bank (paragraph 3.12); and (c) evidence from the borrower that the INE and the U.S. Census Bureau have concluded an agreement establishing the terms and conditions for execution of the activities included in component IV of the program (paragraph 3.14).

The contract will provide that prior to its signature, the executing unit and the Bank will agree on the regulations that will be used to contract the necessary support services for Census 2001.

It is further recommended that a revolving fund with 30% of the financing be set up, pursuant to paragraph 3.24, for purposes of hiring staff charged with conducting the 2001 census in July.

Poverty-targeting and social sector classification:

This operation does not qualify as a social equity enhancing project, as described in the indicative targets mandated by the Bank's Eighth Replenishment (document AB-1704).

Exceptions to Bank policy:

See procurement.

Procurement:

The direct contracting of UNDP is recommended. This specialized agency will select and hire support staff for the enumeration activities, in accordance with the Bank's rules and procedures and the terms and conditions of the contract between the Bank and the Republic of Honduras. This contracting is consistent with the provisions of chapter GS-403 of the Procurement Manual.

The direct contracting of the U.S. Census Bureau is also recommended. This specialized agency will conduct the training and development workshops for the institutional strengthening of the INE.

This too is consistent with the provisions set forth in chapter GS-403 of the Procurement Manual.

No works or equipment will be contracted or procured. The procurement of equipment will be financed by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and the Government of Japan. Given the nature of the program, which will require mass contracting of nonspecialized support services of all kinds that do not qualify as consulting services and involve modest unit costs, an expeditious selection and contracting system is being proposed to take these needs into account and at the same time ensure that basic principles of competition and transparency in Bank-funded contracting are observed. The mechanism proposed includes the following main characteristics: (i) a widely publicized call for candidates for all support-services contracts, indicating the following: (a) conditions that the applicants must meet (selection criteria, wages, method of payment, and period of employment); and (b) the simple model contract that will be used for services contracting; (ii) the generic job description for each of the categories of services expressly eligible for use of this procedure.

To expedite the program's execution and facilitate Country Office supervision work, the ex post review of fulfillment of the above requirements that are part of the regulations agreed upon with the Bank is recommended.